

GUIDANCE AND PLACEMENT SERVICES DIGEST

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This Digest is used to transmit information pertaining to the four program components of the Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program: Curriculum; Individual Planning; Responsive Services; and System Support to professional school counselors, placement personnel, career and technical school counselors and administrators at all levels throughout the state.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. TIME TO APPLY FOR AWARDS

Once again it is time for interested parties to apply for the Planning for Life and ABC's of Career Awareness and Exploration Programs. These programs are sponsored by the Missouri School Counselor Association (MSCA). For more information and/or to receive materials, contact Sherie Wymore, Clearwater Middle School, Rte 4 Box 1004, Piedmont, MO 63957, 573-223-4877 sherwym@semo.net

B. TRAINING OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUTH TO BE OFFERED:

Speak Out for Military Kids training/retreat will be held on April 20-22, 2007

Place: To Be Announced

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is sponsoring this training

Through fun team-building challenging activities, communications training, and use of mobile tech lab, youth will develop speeches and presentations to present at schools and community groups.

All Youth ages 13-19 are welcome! Especially those youth interested in technology that could help us create videos to be used for Public Service Announcements and to create a map showing where in MO we have families affected by deployment.

Speak Out for Military Kids, SOMK, is a part of Operation: Military Kids, O: MK. SOMK is for military and non-military youth to develop skills to create different types of presentations and to speak publicly at school assemblies, community groups, Chamber of Commerce meetings, local government engagements and other media events in local communities. The youth also provide structured learning activities for children at National Guard & Reserve Family Readiness Group meetings. For more information about this, contact Joan Zeller, 4-H Youth Development Programs, University of Missouri Extension

Phone: 660-259-6455 Email: zellerj@missouri.edu

PROGRAM COMPONENTS:

(From time to time, resources that are brought to our attention through ASCA listservs or other means that could be used as part of a guidance program will be listed here. The readers are encouraged to investigate the resources and decide whether or not they are appropriate for their programs. Listing of these resources does not constitute endorsement by either our section or DESE.)

{CURRICULUM}

CURRICULUM AVAILABLE!!!

Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program Curriculum lessons that reflect the newly revised Standards and Grade Level Expectations are now available on the Missouri Center for Career Education (MCCE) website at <http://missouricareereducation.org/curr/cmd/guidanceplacementG/lessons/index.php>

{INDIVIDUAL PLANNING}

REVISED GRADUATION HANDBOOK AVAILABLE

As mentioned in the last Digest, the newly revised Graduation Handbook that is effective for the class of 2010 is now posted on the web. It can be found at: <http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/sia/msip/index.html>

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to Department programs may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Title IX Coordinator, 5th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0480; telephone number 573-751-4581.

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{RESPONSIVE SERVICES}

EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE YOUTH TO MAKE RESPONSIBLE CHOICES ARE BEARING FRUIT.

There is encouraging news from the 2006 Monitoring the Future (MTF) study from the University of Michigan. These data measure progress toward achieving the President's five-year goal for reductions in youth drug use. The MTF survey is an ongoing report of drug use and behaviors among high-school aged children. The study gathers data from approximately 50,000 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students every year to determine their drug use rates and attitudes.

Latest findings include:

- Fewer Young People in America are Using Illegal Drugs
- Youth Use of Marijuana, Meth and Steroids Are Down Dramatically
- LSD and Ecstasy Use by Young People Also Continue to Decline
- Alcohol and Tobacco Use are Down
- Prescription Drug Abuse Remains Troubling

The complete MTF study results can be viewed at <http://monitoringthefuture.org>.

{SYSTEM SUPPORT}

A. RESULTS BASED EVIDENCE PROJECTS: The Guidance Digest will periodically highlight results based evaluation projects. Plans are being made to gather information about projects so that they may be shared with you in the future.

CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS OF NOTE:

A. MISSOURI SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION (MSCA) SPRING CONFERENCE will be held on Friday March 2, 2007 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City. Trish Madsen of Kansas City will be introducing "STEP-UP" a female bullying prevention program. Much of what Ms. Madsen will address can also be utilized in situations with boys. A registration form is available by going to <http://schoolweb.missouri.edu/msca/> and clicking on the January Newsletter link.

B. PATHWAYS TO STUDENT SUCCESS CONFERENCE will be held March 4-6, 2007 at Tan Tar A. Complete conference details are available at: <http://dese.mo.gov/divteachqual/leadership/>

C. THE AMERICAN SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION (ASCA) CONFERENCE WILL be June 23-26, 2007 at the Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center. For more information, go to: <http://www.schoolcounselor.org/content.asp?pl=325&sl=129&contentid=182>

D. MILITARY CHILD EDUCATION COALITION (MCEC) CONFERENCE will be July 11-13, 2007 with a pre-conference July 10-11 at the Westin Crown Center in Kansas City. For more information and a registration form, go to: <http://www.militarychild.org/KansasCity.asp>

E. ANNUAL CHARACTER EDUCATION CONFERENCE will be held July 19-20, 2007, in St. Louis. Information is available at <http://www.characterplus.org/>

F. 2007 MISSOURI ACTE SUMMER CONFERENCE AND CAREER AND TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS WILL be held July 23-July 26, 2007 in Springfield. Watch for further information.

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